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AMERICAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Extracts from the Report of the Prudential Committee—Sept. 1821.

CEYLON.—*Education of Heathen Children.* It does not appear, from any communiques which have come to hand, precisely what alterations have been made, with respect to the number of schools and pupils, in consequence of the large reinforcement, by which the mission had been strengthened. Doubtless a very considerable impulse has been added to the business of instruction.

Taking into view how much the missions had suffered by ill health, it is remarkable that their schools should have so little interrupted. The progress-making these multitudes of heathen children acquainted with the rudiments of human learning, and the simple, most sublime truths of our holy religion, has regularly advanced. Useful knowledge has been communicated; the conscience has been formed, by the aid of perfect standard; the dormant powers of the soul have been called into exercise; the seed of the word has been sown, of which, it is no presumption to say, has sprouted, and is now in blossom, for the great Lord of the harvest cause to produce a glorious increase.

The common schools for the instruction of native children are conducted upon a plan, as cannot fail to approve itself to the understandings of parents, while the pupils are gradually made acquainted with knowledge of the most important kind. A full description of these schools, and of the other missionary operations, as in existence at Tillipally, is contained in an account of that station only received, which was drawn up by Mr. Poor with great care and judgment. This document relates to the state of things, as they were about the close of last year. The Committee deem it highly valuable, as it illustrates the real tendency of Christian exertions among a heathen people.

From the journal of Mr. Meigs at Batticotta, and from letters written by the other missionaries, it appears, that the same care is pursued at all the stations; at least with respect to its material parts.

Dr. Scudder arrived; Mr. Poor at the common schools under his superintendence. Of these, two have been transferred to the care of the station at Oodooville, one to the superintendence of Dr. Scudder, and one has been suspended, account of the sickness of the schoolmaster. Four new schools have since been established in villages near Tillipally; being nine under Mr. Poor's care still. These nine schools the names of 426 are enrolled as pupils, of whom two thirds or three fourths, are actually in school from day to day.

Manner of collecting the Schools.

These schools are first collected by persons who wish to be employed as teachers.

At the commencement of these operations, the teachers are heathens from a noble necessity: no native Christians are found; and, if they could be found, would not be able to collect pupils in heathen families. But the course of instruction, in the schools, tends to break down the heathen prejudices of teachers and learners. Even the smallest boys and a part of the time in committing catechisms to memory. They cannot go to school a single month, without having some of the first principles of religion and morality imprinted on their minds. They advance in learning, and are able to write on the ola, they are employed in copying, and committing to memory, the catechisms, the sermon on the mount, and a selection of passages from the Scriptures. Ostervald's Abridgement of the Bible is introduced into three of the schools and will be introduced into all. In all of them, a short system of morality, composed by a native Christian on the coast, is now used. As there are no printed books among the people, except those introduced by the missionaries, and as the children are never taught the use of the printed character unless in mission schools; it is of great importance to have a variety of printed books, of the missionaries, at each station. The schools, under the care of Mr. Poor, have enjoyed the benefit of Scripture Tracts, printed by the Columbo Bible Society; and Tracts printed at Tranquebar; several sets of Tracts kindly presented to the mission by the Wesleyan missionaries; a little volume, written by the venerable Swartz.

Effect of this course of instruction. In estimating the effect of the course of instruction, which has been pursued, it is to be remembered, that the knowledge obtained by heathen children, in their own schools, is of no real value. What few schools exist among the heathen population, and without the influence of Christian missions, are of the most miserable state. The teachers are poorly remunerated; the parents have no public spirit in the subject of education; and the children, after being merely taught to write the Tamil character on the ola, re-

main ignorant of all that it concerns them to know, in regard to their conduct in this life, and preparation for the life to come. The mission schools are all commenced at the solicitation of the people, which is brought about principally by the agency of those, who expect to sustain the office of teachers. From whatever motives the pupils are collected, the effect of the schools is most salutary. No objection is now made to the course of instruction pursued by the missionaries; even the sons of bramhuns attending school, and learning the catechisms without scruple. Though pupils are not forbidden to read their heathen fables, yet, as the missionaries examine the boys, in those studies only, which they have recommended, the result is, that the most important things are most studied and regarded.

A constant superintendence of all the schools, and a frequent inspection of them, are indispensable to their success. Mr. Poor is much assisted, in this important branch of missionary operations, by his interpreter Nicholas, who was mentioned in the last Report, as having been admitted to the church. Several of the elder and more intelligent boys, also, are now able to render very essential services in this business, and are thus trained up for great usefulness hereafter. On Wednesday evening of each week the schoolmasters of the station, and the boys of the family school, or boarding school, are all assembled at the mission house. The objects of this meeting are, to inquire into the state of the schools, to teach the masters their duty, to communicate religious instruction to them, and to pray with them. At these meetings, the masters have recited a book, containing a compend of the Christian religion, and have attended to some historical parts of Scripture. On the last Wednesday evening of the month, they bring a monthly report, containing the daily attendance of the boys, and a particular account of their progress in learning.

As the wages of the masters are in proportion to the daily attendance of the boys, there is a strong inducement perpetually operating to keep the schools as full as possible. To extraordinary diligence, either in master or scholar, small rewards are occasionally given and with great effect.

The support and education of children in the families of the missionaries, is becoming a very important and promising part of their benevolent exertions. The Board and the Christian public have long been aware, that children can be supported in Ceylon, at a small expense, in the mission families, where they can enjoy all the benefits of Christian instruction and domestic superintendence. A sufficient number of children can be obtained for this purpose, and a selection can be made of those, who give evidence of competent talents, and a docile temper.

When Dr. Scudder arrived at Tillipally, there were twenty-seven boys in the family of Mr. Poor, forming what is called, for the sake of distinction, the boarding school of that station. Of these boys, nine removed with Dr. Scudder to Panditeripo, three were dismissed and one died. When Mr. Poor's last communication was written, the school had again risen to twenty-five, of whom two were on trial, and the rest were received and named, according to directions from benefactors in America, by whom they were supported. Seventeen of these boys spend half their time in English studies; and the first class has constructed several small English books into Tamil. The boys of this class are able to interpret English in Tamil on common subjects, but more especially on subjects of a religious nature.

All the boys in the boarding schools have peculiar opportunities for gaining religious knowledge. Much pains is taken with them on the Sabbath; and the evening of that holy day is spent in giving religious instruction to them, and to the other members of the missionary households. On Tuesday evenings a conference is held with them; on Wednesday evenings they attend, as has been stated, a meeting of the school masters; and on Friday evenings they recite a weekly lesson, and undergo an examination as to their conduct, their progress in study, &c. Mr. Poor has the satisfaction to state that the boys "who have been longest in the school, and have most influence over the other boys, are most exemplary in their conduct, and render much assistance in forming the habits of the smaller children."

The selection of girls to be educated in the mission families is a more difficult undertaking. The prejudices of the natives are very obstinate on the subject. From time immemorial, females here, as in all other heathen countries, have been kept in a state of hopeless depression. Their minds have been left uncultivated, and they have aspired to nothing above the condition of servitude and degradation, in which they were born. To Christianity alone must they look for any melioration of their state and character. Mr. Poor had found it difficult to obtain female children to be educated in the family; and quite embarrassing to take suitable care of them, after they were obtained. Still the value of the object was so great as to encourage

him to persevere. At the last dates, there were eight under his domestic care. They had made considerable proficiency, and were employed part of the time in various branches of industry, and part of the time in study. The prejudices of the people were yielding on other subjects; and it may be confidently expected, that when they see the effects of female education they will no longer remain opposed to it.

The number of children in the boarding schools at Batticotta, Oodooville, and Panditeripo, the committee are not able to state. At the former place there were more than twenty at the beginning of last year, and the number has since been increased. It is probable, that not far from a hundred youths of both sexes were in the mission families of the four stations, at the close of 1820; and that the common schools, under the superintendence of the missionaries, contained more than a thousand pupils.

In looking forward to the probable effects of this course of labor with the rising generation, the Board will bear in mind the following considerations; viz. that nearly all the children, at Tillipally and its neighborhood, who are taught to read, belong to the schools of the mission; that of course the missionaries constantly appear in the character of benefactors, to all the children, who will be likely to exert an influence when grown to manhood; that the organization and superintendence of schools are the most successful means of procuring a regular audience, on the Sabbath, to attend the preaching of the Gospel; that the adult population can be approached in no other way so beneficially, as through the medium of their children; & that a patient, laborious, constant attention to the education of children, without expecting or desiring any reward but their good conduct, affords evidence of disinterestedness, and an earnest desire to do good, which neither the pupils, nor their parents, nor any other class of persons, can refuse to acknowledge.

Preaching the Gospel.

Public worship is regularly attended on the Sabbath, at all the stations. The mission families, domestics, school-boys, and other natives attend. The whole number at Tillipally varies from 200 to 400, the usual number being about 300; the greater part of whom are children. Prayers are offered in the church, accompanied by the reading of the Scriptures, morning and evening through the week. The boys at the station, and some other natives, are present at these seasons. During several months that Dr. Scudder and Mr. Spaulding resided at Tillipally, they frequently made known the great truths of the Gospel, in the neighboring villages, wherever access could be gained to the people, in the house, by the way, or in the field. And since they have removed to other stations, Mr. Woodward follows the same course. At first they were obliged to preach by an interpreter; but their assiduous attention to the language so far conquered it, that two of the newly arrived missionaries, Messrs. Winslow and Woodward, preached in Tamil early in November, only 8 months after they became settled on a mission ground.

Preaching has also been regularly attended at a rest house, in the neighborhood of Tillipally, on Sabbath afternoons, for more than three years. Several of the head men are usually present, and many others who are unwilling to meet at the church. A striking effect of the preaching at this place has been, that a school-master, strongly addicted to heathenism, has been induced to bring his boys with him to this place of worship; and after a long conflict with his old prejudices and feelings, has at last placed his school under the care of the missionaries. Evangelical labors have been continued at all the stations, in the neighboring villages, and among the people generally, as the health of the missionaries, and other circumstances would permit.

The Report next mentions the effects of preaching, as detailed, in the journals of the mission, and the profession of religion made by Malteappa and Philip Mathew. These particulars have already appeared in our pages.

It has been a subject of regret with the Committee, that the state of the Treasury would not allow of so large remittances, for the purposes of education in Ceylon, as the wants of the children, and the openings of Providence seemed to require; nor even as seemed to have been already pledged by the previous remittances, taken in connexion with donations given for this express object. The missionaries themselves have been under apprehensions, in respect to a regular provision for their own continually recurring necessities; and have been obliged to avail themselves of credit, in order to proceed at all in their various operations. This necessity has arisen in part from the want of frequent opportunities to remit money to the east; but principally from the straitened circumstances of the Treasury, and the pressing demands from other quarters.

Quite recently a considerable bill has been paid, drawn by the missionaries, and negotiated through the kind agency of a Wesleyan missionary, and his Society in London. At the present rates of exchange, this mode of supplying the mission is disadvantageous: and would be avoided,

were funds at hand to keep remittances somewhat in advance of estimated expenditures.

It is a very gratifying fact, that missionaries of different societies cooperate harmoniously in Ceylon, where they often meet for united prayer and mutual councils. In many instances the missionaries of this Board have experienced kindness from their brethren engaged in the same work, sent forth by the principal Missionary Societies in Great Britain. But on no occasion has greater promptness been shown, than by the Corresponding Committee of the Church Missionary Society at Calcutta, who, when it was known that a printer had arrived in Ceylon, and the press sent from America could not be readily found, immediately resolved to present a press to the American missionaries; a resolution which was not carried into effect, only because Mr. Garrett was obliged to leave his contemplated station.

It ought also to be mentioned, as a pleasing and favorable circumstance, that the house of Arbuthnot, De Monte, & Co. at Madras, through whose agency several remittances have been made to our eastern missions, generously declined receiving the usual allowance for transacting business of this nature; and, in a polite note to the Treasurer, and to the missionaries at Bombay, offered their gratuitous services on similar occasions in future. Edward A. Newton, Esq. of Boston, expecting to reside several years at Calcutta, has made the same generous offer; and has expressed the utmost readiness to promote the interests of this Board, and of the cause of missions generally, by every means in his power. When gentlemen of great respectability in the commercial world lend the influence of their names, their example, and their valuable services, to the work of spreading the Gospel, it may be taken as one indication, among many others, that commerce will eminently assist the progress of divine truth.

THE PENITENT CRIMINAL.

Letter from a Correspondent of the London Tract Society. Copied from "Monthly Extracts for October, 1821."

On Monday morning, May 28, 1821, I took a place outside a coach, from L—, to a town in L—shire, distant about forty-five miles. As we were about to commence the last stage of the journey, I seated myself on the coach-box, when, to my great mortification, I observed that four convicts in irons were preparing to mount the roof immediately behind the box. Not liking to be in the vicinity of such company, I vacated my seat; and, scrambled over the top of the coach, taking a seat behind, congratulating myself that I had been able to make so timely a retreat from my former position. Scarcely had I sat down, when I discovered that the three persons in the dickey, directly in front of me, were in irons also. I would gladly have resumed my previous seat; thinking it better to have felons at my back, than directly in front; but, on turning about, I perceived that another passenger now occupied the box, and no alternative was left, but to remain where I was, or to descend from the coach, and not to proceed to the place of my destination. I chose the former, and began to consider in what way I might derive some good to myself, or to be the instrument of doing a little good to my fellow travellers, with whom I had, very unexpectedly and unwillingly, become associated.

The first feeling of my mind, after recovering from my bustle and surprise, was one of gratitude to God; arising from the inquiry, "Who maketh thee to differ?" It was not difficult to answer; I felt that I owed much to the providence of God for this difference, and still more to his grace.

In a few moments I looked at the convict who sat directly opposite to me; he was better dressed than the rest, and there was an expression of thoughtfulness in his countenance, which led me to hope that he would favorably receive observations of a serious nature. I began the conversation, by observing that I was very sorry to see him in that situation; he thanked me in a very modest and humble manner. I then said, "What a mercy it is, that though you have transgressed the laws of your country, and must suffer the punishment which they deserve, yet you may come to a God of mercy, for pardon of that particular offence, and for all the sins of your past life." He replied, "Yes, I feel that to be a mercy indeed!"

As I cannot pretend to give in detail all the conversation that passed between us during the two hours we travelled together, suffice it to say, that it embraced every point of importance that concerns the salvation of perishing sinners; and I have no hesitation in saying, if ever I conversed with a man, from whose spirit and conversation I had reason to conclude, that God had given him a new and contrite heart, such an one was this of whom I speak. More than this, I doubt not, may be safely added; viz. that He, who is exalted a Prince and a Savior, to give repentance and the remission of sins, had bestowed this double blessing on this poor convict, who was enabled to testify that he had peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

I was agreeably surprised to find him so well acquainted with the Scriptures. On several occasions, he quoted, readily and correctly, those which were most pertinent to the particular subject on which we were conversing; he had also learned several hymns while in prison, parts of which he repeated, particularly Cowper's.

"There is a fountain fill'd with blood," &c.

And also, "Prayer was appointed to convey," &c.

He was quite the reverse of being forward to speak of his religious experience. On the contrary, there was a modesty and humility in all he said, particularly becoming his situation. He found no fault with his prosecutors, nor with his sentence, nor with any person; he only found fault with himself.

But I must proceed to give an outline of his history, as he related it at my particular request. Several of the particulars have since been confirmed by a respectable clergyman; and of the truth of the remainder, I have no doubt.

He was born in L—shire, in 1793; his parents were in decent circumstances, but made no profession of religion, except occasionally going to church. At a suitable age he was apprenticed to a respectable upholsterer in L—. He soon became regardless of the Sabbath: formed improper acquaintance, and, by degrees, gave himself up to various vices, and, among the rest, to profane swearing, and drinking to excess.

Soon after the expiration of his apprenticeship he married; but it does not appear that any permanently good effect was produced by the change. He continued his evil courses, till at length he committed a highway robbery, was apprehended, convicted, and sentenced to transportation for life. This took place about five years since. When he had been in New South Wales two years, he contrived to get on board a vessel bound to the East Indies, and, secreting himself in the hold till the ship was under weigh, escaped from his place of banishment. From the East Indies he got to the United States, and eventually returned to England. For some time he endeavoured to obtain employment in L—, but without success; he then returned to L—, where his wife & child, and also his parents, reside. From them he met with rather a cold reception; he became indifferent about himself, and, to use his own expression, was beginning to grow wild again. Some person gave information of his return from transportation. He was apprehended, sent to prison, and shortly afterwards to L— County Gaol, where he was again convicted at last March Assizes.

It does not appear, that, up to this period, any good effect had been produced on his mind by all the disgrace and punishment which he had endured. About two months after he had been in prison at L—, a fellow prisoner, whose name was L—, put a Tract into his hand, desiring him to read it; the title of it was, AN APPEAL TO THE HEART. He read it; and it pleased that Divine Spirit, whose office it is to convince the world of sin, to make this tract an appeal to his heart, and to make him deeply sensible of his condition as a guilty sinner. He began to pray, and to read his Bible, which had been given him by the Rev. Mr. L—, the minister of E— Parish, who visited him in prison, previously to his last commitment to L—. Not long after this, he was visited by the Rev. Messrs. H— and G—, Clergymen of the established Church, whose oft repeated visits and instructions were of great use in helping him forward in the knowledge of Christ and his salvation.

After having been brought to feel the value of his own soul, he became concerned for the salvation of his fellow prisoners; and L— (the man who gave him the Tract) and himself, began to speak to such of them as they had access to, which they continued to do, notwithstanding much persecution and reproach, up to the period of their leaving prison.

When I met with the poor fellow, he was on his way to Portsmouth, with the rest, to be transported. L— was one of this party, but was to follow them one day; and it was expected they would go out together. I saw a copy of a letter written by the Rev. Mr. G—, in behalf of these two men, of whom he speaks in very decided terms, of his conviction of their being turned from the error of their ways; and that, from their exemplary conduct in prison, they were entitled to every favour and indulgence that could be shown them consistently with their situation.

I scarcely need add, that this stage of my journey, which, at its commencement, appeared so unpropitious, proved truly interesting and profitable to myself. I felt it to be an occasion when I was providentially called to afford all the instruction, encouragement, and caution which I was capable of giving. The more I saw of the man, the more reason had I to admire the grace of God in him. Instead of complaining of the persons who had been the cause of his second apprehension, he blessed God for it, being persuaded that it had been the means of saving him from destruction. He informed me, that he had

ing, that he thought, at one time, it was impossible he should be saved from this; but he now acknowledges, that, since the fear of God had possessed his mind, he finds it easy to abstain from taking his ho-ly name in vain. In answer to an enquiry as to his enjoyment of the comforts of religion, he replied; "Yes, Sir; I thank God, I do enjoy a degree of peace which passeth all understanding; I would not exchange my present situation for a kingdom."

It is perhaps the most curious, though the least important part of this little history, that the name of this poor fellow is the same as my own, J. C. He is however no kinsman of mine according to the flesh; but, inasmuch as I believe him to be like myself, a sinner saved by grace, I have no hesitation in acknowledging him as a brother in Christ Jesus.

From the Southern Evangelical Intelligencer.
THE APOSTATE'S DEATH.

About twenty years ago, Mr. P. an inhabitant of one of the middle States, closed his earthly career under circumstances the most distressing to his relatives, and still more distressing, it is to be feared, to his immortal soul. He had once professed religion, but this he had not only renounced, but also pretended to deny the fundamental articles of the Christian's creed. However well he might have lived by this affected denial, (and real apostacy,) it would not serve him on his dying bed, but added to the agonies of his painful dissolution.

Mr. P. to a handsome exterior, possessed highly polished manners, and was not devoid of those accomplishments which render a gentleman's company pleasing and attractive. These fine qualities, added to the natural suavity of his temper, caused him to be loved by the whole circle of his acquaintance. He wanted, however, the restraints which religion impose on society—and wanting these, he wanted every thing: for the agreeableness of his company made him a welcome guest at all parties of pleasure and fashion. It is true, his better reason told him that it required a man of sterner virtue than himself, to resist the vices to which he was constantly exposed at such places: but he had not firmness to resist the earnest solicitations of his friends, and he accordingly yielded to their entreaties, and was led a too willing captive to scenes of immorality and irreligion. It was not to be wondered at then, if Mr. P.'s heart became tainted with the vices of a licentious neighborhood. Nor is it surprising, that the ball-room, the gambling-table, and the bacchanalian throng more frequently enjoyed his attention, than those duties which were calculated to add to his temporal and spiritual welfare.

But ere he sunk forever in vice, it seemed as if the Lord was desirous, in a very special manner, of giving him an opportunity of withdrawing from his dissolute companions. Mr. P. had not entirely forgot the sanctuary; and once, in the height of his career in folly, was attracted to a neighboring place of worship, on a particular occasion, when many pious preachers were to be present. Under the sound of the Gospel, conviction fastened on his mind; he saw himself a sinner, travelling the road to destruction, and was induced to cry to the Lord for mercy. A short time after, believing he had obtained pardon, he made a solemn profession of the religion of the Cross—and run well for a season. Would to God that he had continued faithful to the end.

Soon after his public profession, the eyes of the religious community were fixed on him as a worthy object for the ministry; and he became as much courted by his pious friends as he had formerly been by his companions in folly. Perhaps it was Mr. P.'s misfortune to be so much noticed. His mind was not able to bear it. Pride crept in, and expelled that best of Christian graces, humility. Forgetting his Lord, and relying on his own strength, he fell. His fall was terrible, and destroyed the fond anticipations of his religious associates. His fall was awful, and forever destroyed the happiness of his own soul.

Again, Mr. P. rushed into all the extremes of folly, until at length folly became vice. He endeavored to support himself under his double transgression, (or rather to extenuate his offence,) by assailing the fundamental articles of that religion he had so lately professed. All his former greatness seemed to forsake him, and the better qualities of his nature were entirely obscured. Instead of acting like a man of honor, and acknowledging the fault to be with himself, he vainly endeavored to cast an odium on that system he had disgraced and dishonored. He openly avowed—"that one moment's death bed repentance was a sufficient atonement for all sins—that he did not fear death, come when it would, if he only had time to say, Lord have mercy—that religion was nothing more than enthusiasm and high wrought feeling—that five minutes' repentance was sufficient for any man—that his late religious associates were all hypocrites," &c. With such expressions as these, he continued his sinful course, until fell disease, occasioned by his dissolute life, overtook him.

He had every opportunity to prove the truth of his theory. His disease was thought to be mortal from the commencement of the attack—and he was admonished of the danger, and the necessity of closing his earthly affairs, as a few days more would probably terminate his life. He immediately became alarmed for his eternal welfare; and his apostate theories, one after another, vanished before the light of Divine truth. He had denied his Lord and Master; he had persecuted his Christian brethren—he had slandered them—he had disgraced them. His senses never forsook him, as it was determined in the councils of infinite Justice, that it should not be said his ravings were those of a deranged man. After his disease was considered fatal he was spared as many days as he had wished minutes for repentance—yet he found it too short. He solicited the prayers of his despised Christian friends, which were freely offered—yet he found no comfort. On his first alarm, he cried for years to live and repent—as his end approached, he interceded for months—then for weeks—for days—for hours—and closed his life, by crying for a few minutes longer to make his peace with his offended God!

Thus perished Mr. P. in the prime of life, and would that we could say hope cheered the last moments of his existence—but alas! it was far otherwise. The decrees of Providence are inscrutable to mortal ken—but should we judge by our imperfect vision, it might not be arrogance to ask, "Where rests his soul?" Oh! that infidels would profit by his painful end, and seek the truth as it is in Jesus.

"I made a sign I wished them to sit down, and in particular that the wife should take coffee with me, but he treated them very harshly, made me understand that coffee would be too good for them and said water was good enough; at the time he held the coffee-pot, pressing me to drink more: on my refusing, he locked it up in a small room, that the women might not drink it. By this time I had been so much among the women in Egypt, and compelled to smoke, that I could easily finish my half pipe. After having smoked for some time, I laid it down; one of the women took it up, and began to smoke: on seeing such a horrid profanation, the man took it from her with violence, and was going to beat her, which I naturally prevented. He filled it again, and offered it to me; but, as I did not wish to smoke any more, he went and carefully locked it up, making me understand when I wanted it, it was at my service. I must confess I felt hurt to see the distinction he made, but afterwards I saw the necessity of doing so."

"They always behaved to me not only with respect, but humility; so that their roughness seems not directed towards women in general; and I have often heard them remark to me, that if they treated these women as I treated them, would become quite unruly."

"A short time afterwards the Aga came in, and inquiring if they had served me with coffee and a pipe, he went to his treasury and brought out some dirty bruised grapes, as a great treat, which he presented me, the poor woman looking with wistful eyes towards the basket. In the impulse of the moment I took it, and offered them to his wife, and then to the rest, who all refused; and, though they did not dare to take any themselves, yet they pressed me to eat, and he seemed astonished when, on account of their dirt, I only took a small bunch. I kept the grapes in my hands for some time, before I could muster resolution to eat them. I began, at last, one by one, trying to wipe them with a handkerchief without their perceiving it; but I was mistaken, for their eyes were fixed upon me very closely. An old woman saw what I was doing, and ran and fetched me a burdock of water. I did not ask for water at first, as I was afraid to do anything to offend them."

"I now gave my little present of beads and a looking glass, which contained a drawer. The beads pleased them, and the glass, being the largest they had ever seen, and made to stand by itself, was to them a matter of astonishment. To describe the tricks the women played with it, tearing it from each other, and setting it in any way but the right, would be thought a caricature. I at first attempted to show them the right way to use it, but there is no other method with these women than letting them have their own way; and I believe it is pretty well so in more civilized countries, or I am much mistaken. When the wife perceived they had got the glass out of its frame, she put it in a little room, and locked it up with the heads."

"On the man coming in, they began to prepare for cooking the dinner for the Aga, which consisted of a dish of Bami, boiled in mutton broth, poured over bread, with a little mutton, and some minced meat, mixed up with rice into balls: what other ingredients might be mixed shall by me be nameless: the cleanliness of this preparation I have not eloquence to describe: the horror I felt at the idea that I should be obliged to eat of it, was more than any English stomach could reconcile at that moment. They brought me all the dishes before they took them out to the Aga, and Mr. B. was to dine with him. The first was the bami, which I refused, but I took a piece of the boiled mutton, as being the cleanest, with some bread: that would not do, the wife took some of the minced meat and rice in her hands, and insisted on my eating it, making me understand it was the best. At last all was carried to the Aga. I was then served with the customary coffee and pipe. The house, or rather stable, consisted of four walls, which had the sky for its ceiling, inclosing two small rooms, one in which the Aga used to keep the treasure locked, such as coffee-cup, tobacco, &c.; the other was the wife's, and contained all their great wardrobe, besides bread, onions, flour, dhoura, oil, and many other things of the kind. The furniture consisted of water jars, sieves to clean the corn and sift the flour, a few earthen pots to cook in, some wooden bowls to eat out of, an oven, and some burdocks for cooling water, a small coffee-pot, and old mats to lie on. I took my leave, giving the children and women a small present of money, promising to call and see them on my return. Next morning another wife of the Aga sent me word that she should be glad to see me. I felt little inclination to go, but, not wishing to make any distinction between them, I went, and found to my surprise, a very pretty young woman. She lived next door to the other, who got upon the wall to see what passed between us. She had no coffee to give me, but instead presented me with some dates and dhoura in grain. She seemed much afraid of the other wife. Though pretty in my eyes, she was not thought so by her own people; the other, though old, was considered the greatest beauty in Assouan, on account of her being so extremely fat. Their hair was plaited after the Nubian custom, adorned with a few gold ornaments, with a plenty of stinking raw fat, and certain bark of a tree beat in powder to make it black, besides giving a horrid perfume, which they consider as a great improvement to their charms; it is not the same powder they use in blacking the eye-brows and eye-lids. I made her a present of some beads, which she tried to hide, and I wished her farewell."

From the London Courier.
MODERN GREECE.

In the *Annals of Travels, Geography, and History*, a work published in numbers at Paris, we find a memoir on the different races which compose the population of Turkey, from the pen of a Greek.

After giving an account of the Wallachians, Bulgarians, and Albanians, he proceeds to describe his own nation. He acknowledges "that the Greeks have degenerated from their ancient glory,

and that during a long course of ages they had ad-

ded almost nothing to the stock of human knowl-

edge.—Their decline began during the domina-

tion of the Macedonians; and was accelerated during

the sway of the Romans; and was completed after

the triumph of Christianity under the reigns of

Theodosius and Justinian. Then philosophy was

proscribed, the ancient models of taste neglected,

and monastic subtleties usurped the place of rea-

son and common sense. The invasions of the

barbarians into Greece, the victories of the Crusad-

ers, and finally the conquest of the Turks, by re-

ducing them to political slavery and destroying

the sources of their wealth, compelled them to li-

mit their exertion to mere necessities." "I shall

be among the foremost," adds he, "to reprobate

the conduct of the Greeks, who, during ten centu-

ries, have been unable to acquire their political

emancipation; who were contented to be called

Romans without aiming at their ancient char-

acter or national independence; who showed them-

selves so feeble as to be invaded by, and parcelled

out among the Crusaders; and who were at last

unable to defend themselves against the Turks.

When a nation, from the nature of its territory,

can impede the resistance of the Spaniards, it de-

serves its slavery, if it submit to be enslaved. But

when by a singular concatenation of circumstances

the conquest has been consummated; when the

conquerors, becoming more numerous than the

vanquished, have obtained possession of fortified

places and advantageous positions; when nothing

remains to the conqueror but to endure tyranny,

or to be massacred in attempting to obtain inde-

pendence; in such a case, the unfortunate peo-

ple deserves, in my opinion, some indulgence, es-

pecially if they continue to labor in the improve-

ment of their condition, in expectation of the ap-

pearance of their deliverer."

The author proceeds to remark, that

from the time in which the Turks were repulsed

before Vienna, their power ceased to advance: and from that time, being obliged to act upon the defensive, their subjects enjoyed a little more indulgence. From that era the commerce of the Greeks increased; books were multiplied; and schools were established at Constantinople, Smyrna, Janian, Vosopolis, & other Greek cities. Although the modern Greeks bear a strong affinity to the ancient, it was found impracticable, on the revival of something like a national spirit, to return to the language of Xenophon and Demosthenes.—The modern language is indeed substantially the same as the ancient, and infinitely more nearly allied than the Latin is to the Italian; but they vary considerably for the one to be called a dialect of the other. About the beginning of the last century, an ecclesiastic, who was afterwards Bishop of Jerusalem, published at Paris the first Geography in the vulgar or modern Greek. The Archbishop of Athens afterwards published an Ecclesiastical History in the same language. The government of the Venetian Republic evinced towards the unfortunate Greeks more indulgence than that of any other European state; and accordingly in the Venetian dominions many of their most learned men took up their residence and published their works. The Greek printing press of Venice supplied for a long time the whole of Greece; and we observe that most of the modern Greek books now dispersed over Europe bear the stamp of Venice. Unhappily for the credit of Greek genius, most of them are translations. About the middle of the last century, a celebrated Greek school was established on Mount Athos, by Eugenius Bulgari, who was subsequently promoted to the archiepiscopal dignity by the empress Catherine. This able and learned man translated Virgil into Homeric verse; but, as he preferred the ancient to the modern language for expressing his ideas, he rather retarded than promoted the literature of his country. After this time there appeared numerous works on all subjects of education: books on grammar, on history, polemical di-

STATE OF RELIGION, In the bounds of the Synod of Philadelphia.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 2, 1821.

The Synod of Philadelphia present to the churches under their care, the following account of the state of religion during the past year, within their bounds, as collected from the detailed statements of their several Presbyteries and members.

They would renew their acknowledgements to the great Governor of the world, and Head of the Church, who has not withdrawn from them, during the past year, those tokens of regard, for which instances would occur, because they have occurred, and do still occur; but it is not easy to pre-

dict that parents who are able to give their children a public education, would do it without being encouraged to hope for aid. Are there not many rich pa-

rents, destitute of piety, who would never advance a cent toward the education of a pious son for the Ministry, who have no respect for the office, and no complacency in the effects that are to flow from it.

But if we will consent that their son be educated for the benefit of the church, and he possess "pro

ming talents," ought not the churches to educate him? Will not their exertions for him probably result in incalculable good to the world? Is the guilt of his parents to consign him to obscurity and comparative uselessness? If a youth has parents, able to help him, who yet refuse to do it, from mistaken views of duty to other members of their family, they are accountable to God, and we know not how they can stand excused at the

bar of conscience, or of their final Judge, for taking from the sacred funds of the church, to enrich their family. We would not that our souls should be in their soul's stead. Whether they think or not, they are in fact robbing others; they are taking from those poorer than themselves to save their own purse strings. This is ungenerous; it is cruel; it is wicked; and it is bad policy too—for that Providence of God which never sleeps, will infallibly take from them in one way or another more than they thus take from the poor of the church.

We are further pleased to state that the instruction of youth gains increasing attention in their schools. Christian parents and pastors are becoming more alive to the immense importance of this concern. They accordingly engage with zeal in the promotion of Sabbath Schools, Bible Classes, and catechetical instruction. In several instances the Synod were gratified with accounts of new efforts, and of new and flattering prospects for the rising generation.

In their last Report the Synod noticed the attention of the Christian public in the city of Philadelphia, to the spiritual improvement of the mariners, frequenting that port. There is now cause to rejoice in the encouraging success which has crowned the efforts of the benevolent, for the good of that important class of our citizens. A temporary place has been provided for their accommodation; and public worship is regularly attended by a numerous congregation of seamen. The word has been attended with power, and the morals of this people in many instances have undergone through its influence, an obvious and pleasing change.

But while Synod have cause to rejoice in being able to make to the churches this statement, they cannot help at the same time, sincerely and deeply lamenting that, in many of their churches there is a sad laxity of discipline, a coldness and indifference respecting the observance of the ordinances, and that in many places, the vices of intemperance and Sabbath breaking do notoriously abound. On account of these vices and many others, the judgments of the Lord seem to hang in a most alarming manner over our land. An epidemic and mortal sickness has visited and desolated many parts of our country. They know that many will attempt to attribute exclusively to the operation of secondary causes, the production of such afflictions; but Synod deem it to be their duty to direct themselves and their people to recognize in this calamity the chastising hand of the Most High. They therefore conceive that this visitation is a loud call to us, deeply and unfeignedly to humble ourselves in the presence of that Almighty Being, whom, by our sins, we have grievously offended. May the Lord of all grace and compassion therefore, incline the hearts of both pastors and people to review their conduct, that they may humble themselves before God, & be induced henceforth to renew their diligence in the service of their Divine Master, that He may avert the heavy judgments which have for some time hung over us; and cause those precious spiritual blessings to descend upon us which make rich and add no sorrow. [Rel. Remembrancer.]

BOSTON RECORDER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1821.

OBJECTIONS TO THE AMERICAN EDUCATION SOCIETY CONSIDERED.

Objection 2.—"The money is often bestowed on those who do not need it." So far as this objection may be true, it involves the moral character of the beneficiaries, and of the "three serious and respectable men" whose "unequivocal testimony" is required to their "real indigence." It ought therefore never to be uttered lightly, nor to be admitted as a fact without serious investigation. If it be *false*, it is a slander to which no epithet of baseness can be improperly applied; if it be *true*, it is capable of demonstration, and no every principle of equity ought to be made to appear. The

pecuniary circumstances of each beneficiary are known to the Directors as far as the above mentioned testimony may be relied upon; and they not only require such evidence of indigence at the commencement of the beneficiaries' literary course, but also a written statement every year, "of his necessities—of any change in his pecuniary circumstances—an accurate account of his necessary expenses, and of any assistance that he may have obtained, or may have reason to expect from other sources." Such a statement is indispensable to a continuance of charity. Now, either the Directors are in fault, or the beneficiary, if the objection be true. We believe neither to be in fault; and if we are mistaken, will be grateful to any individual to point out the instance, by which the objection may be sustained. If a young man applies for aid, who is possessed of one or two hundred dollars, is he to be refused for that circumstance? He must expend it, and earn in some way much more, in order to complete his education, even though he receives \$75 or \$100 per annum, from the Education Society. The utmost that this Society proposes to do for any young man, is to defray about half his necessary expenses—leaving him to make up the deficiency by his own industry—the assistance of friends, &

POET'S CORNER.

From the *Connecticut Journal*.

THE GREEK EMIGRANT'S SONG.

Now launch the boat upon the wave,
The wind is blowing off the shore,
I will not live, a cowering slave,
In these polluted islands, more;
Beyond the wild dark heaving sea,
There is a better home for me.
The wind is blowing off the shore,
And out to sea the streamers fly;
My music is the dashing roar,
My canopy the stainless sky;
Beneath above so fair and blue,
That Heaven seems opening to my view.
I will not live, a cowering slave,
Tho' all the charms of life may shine
Around me, and the land, the wave,
And sky, be drawn in tints divine;
Give lowering skies and rocks to me,
If then my spirit can be free.
Sweeter than spicy gales, that blow
From orange groves with woody breath,
The winds may from these islands flow;
But 'tis an atmosphere of death;
The lotus, which transform'd the brave
And haughty, to a willing slave.
Softer than Minder's winding stream,
The wave may ripple on this coast;
And brighter than the morning beam,
In golden swell be round it toss;
Give me a rude and stormy shore,
So power can never threat me more.
Brighter, than all the tales they tell
Of Eastern pomp and pageantry;
Or sunset skies in glory swell,
Hung round with glowing tapestry;
The horizon of a winter storm
Swell brighter o'er a Freeman's form,
The Spring may here with Autumn twine,
And both combined may rule the year,
And fresh blown flowers and racy wine
In frosted clusters still be near,
Deared the wild and snowy hills,
Where halo and ruddy freedom smiles.
Beyond the wild dark heaving sea,
And ocean's stormy vastness o'er,
There is a better home for me,
A welcome and dearer shore;
There hands and hearts and souls are twin'd,
And free the man, and free the mind.

MISCELLANY.

DISSERTATIONS—No. XV.

For the Recorder.

Consideration of objections commonly brought against the doctrine of the divine purposes.

The doctrine under consideration may be thus stated:—“All things take place according to the purpose or will of God.” I shall now consider three objections, which are brought against this proposition.

First.—It is said that the purpose of God, as has been stated, interferes with the liberty of human action, and consequently takes away accountableness. The objector appears to suppose that God, in the execution of his plan, must make use of compulsion. He appears to have fixed his eye upon one mode of the divine operation, and inferred, that this must be the *only* mode. But cannot the divine influence unfold itself in a way, which is adapted to the different states in which beings are placed? Can it not act in strict conformity with their natures and destiny? Are we to suppose that the one Spirit, who in the beginning moved over the face of the waters, and hushed “the wild war of nature's elements,” must proceed in the same manner, when he renovates the hearts of the children of men? Are we to suppose that that being, who has power to overrule earthquakes, and still the raging of the sea, must proceed in the same manner, when he makes the wrath of man to praise him, or calms the tumult of the people? Until the objector can bring forward some proof, that God in carrying on the great plan of Providence must observe a uniform method of procedure, must influence all beings alike, rational and irrational, material and immaterial, until he can do this, I say, his objection is of no consequence. From another view of the subject it is surprising, that the objection now under consideration ever should be advanced. For if all things take place according to the purpose of God, then every thing, which is necessary to constitute a man a free agent, is included in this purpose. Now, to say the *decrees* of God destroy free agency is the greatest absurdity; it is the same as to say, because God has determined that a man shall be free, therefore he cannot be free; because he has determined that a man shall be just what he is, therefore he must be different from what he is.

The second objection to which I shall attend, is that the purposes of God, as they have been stated, take away motives to human exertion, for if it is determined that an event shall come to pass, it will come to pass, whether the means are used or not. But if all things are determined, then not only the event, but the manner in which it is to happen is determined, not only the end, but the means by which it is to be accomplished; not only the actions of men, but the motives, which induce men to action. Thus the language of the objector is founded in the grossest absurdity.

It is further objected, that the doctrine of the divine purposes, as has been stated, is inconsistent with the moral character of God. The objector has in view the condition of those, who are not chosen to salvation. But if it is said, that it is inconsistent with the moral character of God to determine, then it is inconsistent for God to reward virtue, or punish transgression. For as it respects him, his eternal purposes and the acts of his government are perfectly correspondent. There is no succession of ideas in the divine mind, the relations of before and after are not predicable of the divine existence. Thus the objector would take away every thing from the character of God, which could excite reverence or love. Let us suppose for a moment, that man had fallen, was exposed to the penalty of the divine law, and the plan of redemption not made known. The attention of all holy beings was turned towards this rebellious world, all its guilty inhabitants had reason to expect, that every denunciation of the divine government would be accomplished, not one among the countless myriads of created intelligences had the most distant idea, that a plan for the restoration of man was devised. Suppose at this time God should make known his decree, even those which existed from eternity, and should proclaim, behold, “I will set before the sons of men blessing and cursing, and the soul which chooseth life shall live, and the soul which chooseth death shall die.” What would be thought of that man, who while standing on the brink of ruin, and seeing the hand of mercy extended for his deliverance, should begin to object to the purposes of God? Such a decree as this fills heaven with joy, and the day, on which it was made known, ought to be hailed as the jubilee of the universe.

G.

Communicated for the Recorder.

SOUTH AMERICA AND MEXICO IN READINESS FOR THE BIBLE.

The recent victories gained by the patriots of Mexico and South America, seem to indicate that their struggles with the mother country are nearly at an end. Their independence will doubtless at no distant period be recognized, and we may expect soon to see the former Spanish provinces taking an important rank among the nations of the earth. Already indeed, in point of population they may each of them compare with the United States at the commencement of the Revolution, while one or more of them nearly equal our present numbers. Surely then the eye of Christian philanthropy

should be intently fixed on the republics of the south. A more important period will probably never occur in their history. The shackles of superstition and tyranny seem to be breaking together. The mind which has so long been enslaved by ignorance, is coming forth from her prison house. A spirit of liberality and a thirst for knowledge are beginning to be manifested. At the same time, the government, the institutions and the citizens of the United States are viewed with sentiments of partiality. What then should be our feelings towards those who are our brethren by *proximity* and *successful struggle for liberty* as well as by the common ties of humanity? In what manner shall we best promote their interests, and discharge our present duty towards them? We answer; By making our *Bible Society American* in its most extended sense—by sending forth our *Pinkertons*, our *Hendersons*, and our *Steinkops*, to establish *Bible Societies* in the principal cities, and to distribute as far as practicable, the *Word of Life*. It is believed that without attempting to interfere with the *Roman Catholic* religion, much might be done towards circulating the *Scriptures* in those versions which are approved by their church. Many of their clergy have been active in favor of the cause of independence. Will it therefore be unreasonable to suppose that some of them might be found possessed of equal liberality with their *Catholic* brethren in *Louisiana* and *Germany*, not a few of whom have shewn themselves warm friends of the *Bible* cause?

But it may be objected to the proposed undertaking, that we have many in our own country who are not yet supplied with the *Scriptures* and that our first exertions should be directed to their relief. Precisely such was and is now the fact with *Britain*; and yet the *British and Foreign Bible Society* have not hesitated to afford friendly and extensive aid, to their brethren of almost every kindred, and people, and tongue¹ under heaven. We trust it needs no argument at the present day to prove the wisdom and benevolence of their operations. Had they sought only to supply their destitute countrymen, it may be questioned whether they could have taken a more effectual method than by establishing a *society* on such broad foundations. In like manner should our national *Bible Society* extend the sphere of its operations, on the one hand to the *Pole*, and on the other to *Cape Horn*; it cannot be doubted that a new impulse would be given to the distribution of the *Scriptures* at home. The friends of *South American Independence* in the western and southern sections of our country might also be expected to enter with ardor into a plan so well calculated to give strength and permanency to their newly formed governments and infant institutions, while the friends of peace would gladly embrace the opportunity of fastening those “cords of love,” which neither avarice nor ambition can sever.

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[*Electric Review*.]

Bonaparte Manuscript.—A Paris paper says—“A report is in circulation in *London* that the *English government* has secured to itself the inspection of all the manuscripts left by *Bonaparte*, without any regard to the persons in whose hands they might have been deposited. It is said even that Sir *H. Lowe*, Gov. of *St. Helena*, has taken possession, temporarily, of all the papers of *Napoleon*, and has brought them with him to *England*.”

Colonel *Brandt* then came forward attired in the picturesque garb of his nation. His figure is tall; his deportment commanding; he speaks English extremely well, both to accent and arrangement; and addressed the meeting with great *eloquence*, nearly in the following terms:—“Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel great pleasure and satisfaction in being present at a meeting like this—at a meeting intended for the distribution of the *Holy Scriptures* to all people. The effect of the labors of the *Bible Society* has been felt even in our remote abodes; & I shall be proud on my return to tell my countrymen that I have been present at their deliberations. I hope, before long, to witness the happy effect of the female branch of *Society* now about to be formed. May the *Lord Jesus* bless you and aid your endeavors.”—*New-York Advertiser*.

From the Christian Herald.

JEWS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in *Charleston*, *S. C.* to the *Rev. Mr. Foy*.

CHARLESTON, S. C. Sept. 26, 1821.

Rev. and dear Sir—The situation of the sons of *Abraham*, is in some respects interesting, and indicates results favorable to Christian effort. The following is an extract of a letter from a clergyman, dated *Wateree Circuit*, S. C. Aug. 8, 1820.

There are two families of Jews in this *Circuit* whom I have visited several times. Since I last visited them, two of their daughters have been converted to the Christian religion.

The following circumstances are worthy of notice. The mother sent them one day to the spring house for milk; a servant happening to be there at the time, the girls gave her the milk to carry to the house, and then retired to the woods to pray. They were not long at prayer before they began to cry aloud for mercy, so that they were heard at the house. The mother of the girls and one of the sisters, hearing the noise, came to the place where the children were at prayer. The Lord seemed to touch their hearts also, for they did not oppose them. The father of one of the girls, also hearing the noise, came to the place, and heard the child praying that Christ would have mercy on her and on her unbelieving father. This enraged him; as he could not brook the idea that his child should believe Jesus to be the Christ. He picked up a stick to beat her, but as he approached the child, he became so entangled in a grape vine, that it was some time before he extricated himself. The mother of the girls took them to the house, and locked them up in a room, to shelter them from the rage of the father. They were threatened by him, that if they persisted in praying to Christ, he would put them to death. The children replied, “We will pray for you to the church, and we expect two more to do so the next time of preaching there.”

Persons holding subscription papers are requested to return them to the subscriber, before the 1st of January next.

The following encouraging instances have come

within my own knowledge, and that of my immediate acquaintances:

During my connexion with a *Sabbath school* in this city, two female children of Jewish parentage, attended it with the approbation of their mother, and with great delight recited lessons from the Old Testament, and heard explanations from their teachers, which directed their attention to the New. Their attendance was continued for a length of time.

On a more recent occasion, three Jewish children have attended two different day schools, in which exercises on religious subjects formed a part of their plan of instruction; and these, though opposed in the first instance by their parents, were permitted to continue to recite exercises on religious subjects through their own solicitation.

At the present time a pious lady of my particular acquaintance has two Jewish children under her care, who are required to recite lessons from the *Bible*. She tells me that these two children are very attentive when other scholars recite from the New Testament, and particularly so to the explanations given by the teachers.

More encouraging instance is the hopeful conversion of a Jewish female to the Christian faith. Her attention was first called up by sickness. In her anxiety about her eternal welfare, she made many inquiries of a mulatto woman, who was in communion with a christian church, and through her means others were introduced to her, better able to point out the way of restoration through the merits of a crucified Redeemer. A clergyman who had conversed with her, informed me some time since, that her's was a case of undoubted conversion; that she was much persecuted by her Jewish acquaintances, but that she remained unmoved. Another of the same family is in a tender state of mind.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

Disappearance of a mountain.—The *Journal des Debats* says—“An extraordinary event happened in the environs of *Aubenas*, on the 15th of June last. A loud report was heard, during five or six minutes, to the extent of six miles round. The inhabitants knew not the cause; when a very high mountain, called *Gerbier de Jonc*, at the foot of which springs the *Loire*, disappeared, and presented nothing but a lake. This mountain was high, and it was difficult to reach the top, at the extremity of which there was a fountain. The commotion was so strong, that it produced an earthquake for a space of five leagues in circumference.”

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“Mr. Buchanan, his Majesty's *Consul* at *New York*, has made considerable collections, during his successive journeys through *Upper Canada*, respecting the history of the *North American Indians*; which, with many other interesting materials and official documents, will be shortly presented to the public.” We learn that this work has been undertaken with a view to ameliorate the condition of the remaining aborigines of *America*. The work is dedicated to *Earl Dalhousie*, the *Governor in Chief* of his Majesty's *North American possessions*.

[*Electric Review*.]

Bonaparte Manuscript.—A Paris paper says—“A report is in circulation in *London* that the *English government* has secured to itself the inspection of all the manuscripts left by *Bonaparte*, without any regard to the persons in whose hands they might have been deposited. It is said even that Sir *H. Lowe*, Gov. of *St. Helena*, has taken possession, temporarily, of all the papers of *Napoleon*, and has brought them with him to *England*.”

Colonel *Brandt* then came forward attired in the picturesque garb of his nation. His figure is tall; his deportment commanding; he speaks English extremely well, both to accent and arrangement; and addressed the meeting with great *eloquence*, nearly in the following terms:—“Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel great pleasure and satisfaction in being present at a meeting like this—at a meeting intended for the distribution of the *Holy Scriptures* to all people. The effect of the labors of the *Bible Society* has been felt even in our remote abodes; & I shall be proud on my return to tell my countrymen that I have been present at their deliberations. I hope, before long, to witness the happy effect of the female branch of *Society* now about to be formed. May the *Lord Jesus* bless you and aid your endeavors.”—*New-York Advertiser*.

From the Christian Herald.

VILLAGE HARMONY—*New Edition*.

THE Public is now offered another edition of *Village Harmony*, with confidence that it will be found still increasing in its claims upon their patronage. Those alterations have been made which correspond to the progressive improvement of the public taste in sacred music. A few classical European tunes have been substituted for some of a less perfect character, and the valuable foreign music which is retained, and which the public has not ceased to venerate and admire, is still preserved in this collection, secure from the touch of American innovation. In this edition the modern alterations of notes in old standard tunes, which alterations were copied into our two last editions, and which have been the subject of general complaint, have been expunged, and those tunes restored to the venerable shape which has stood the test of almost a century. Much gratitude is felt by all interested in the success of this book, for the liberal patronage which has been extended to it. Should any of its patrons regret that it has not hitherto excluded all tunes which are not universally considered classical, they are reminded that it circulates over portions of our country, where refinement of taste and opportunities for improvement are necessarily unequal, and the *Village Harmony*, by gradually increasing its number of genuine and perfect tunes, has adopted the most effectual and indeed only practicable method of raising the popular taste to a high and equal standard. This fact certainly entitles the book to the continual patronage of those who have desired a general improvement. But the *Village Harmony* has now become secure from the charge of a deficiency in classical pieces, and has added much to its claims upon the support of those who regard the high and solemn purpose of sacred music.

The above work is just published, being the *Seventeenth Edition, Revised, and for sale by Dec. 8. R. P. & C. Williams, Cornhill Square, Societies furnished at Nine Dollars a dozen.*